

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Beginning first with the objections to the drawings, the obvious mistakes pointed out by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action have been corrected here, without introducing any new matter. A set of formal drawings that incorporate these corrections are also submitted here.

This amendment also corrects an obvious mistake at page 10, line 1, and at page 13, line 8, of the Specification as filed, as pointed out on page 2 of the Office Action.

Turning now to the art rejections, claims 11-14 are rejected as being obvious in view of the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,880,859 issued to Hiromatsu ("Hiromatsu") and U.S. Patent No. 6,633,335 issued to Kwon, et al. ("Kwon"). To overcome this rejection, claim 11 has been amended to recite an apparatus in which a control unit for an image sensor has a first color channel pulse generation unit that generates a set of sample signals based on a value contained in a duty cycle register, wherein these sample signals represent a shutter control pulse width for the first color channel being split into a plurality of sub-pulses whose sum width equals the first shutter control pulse width. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification as filed, at page 9, lines 1-19; and at page 13, lines 14-16, such that no new matter has been added. Neither of the relied upon art references of Hiromatsu or Kwon teaches or suggests such a control unit for an image sensor.

Claim 12 which depends from claim 11 has also been amended in a similar manner, concerning the second color channel. Once again, no new matter has been added as is clear from reviewing the portions of the Specification mentioned above.

Any dependent claims not mentioned here are submitted as being neither anticipated or obvious in view of the relied upon art, for at least the reasons given above in support of their base claim 11.

CONCLUSION

In sum, a good faith attempt has been made to address all the points made in the Office Action and to present again claims 1-15, which are now believed to be in condition for allowance (where claims 1-10 were indicated as being allowable as filed). A Notice of Allowance referring to such claims is therefore respectfully requested to issue at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

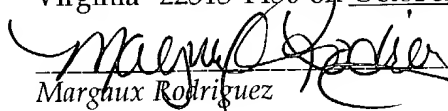
Dated: October 12, 2004

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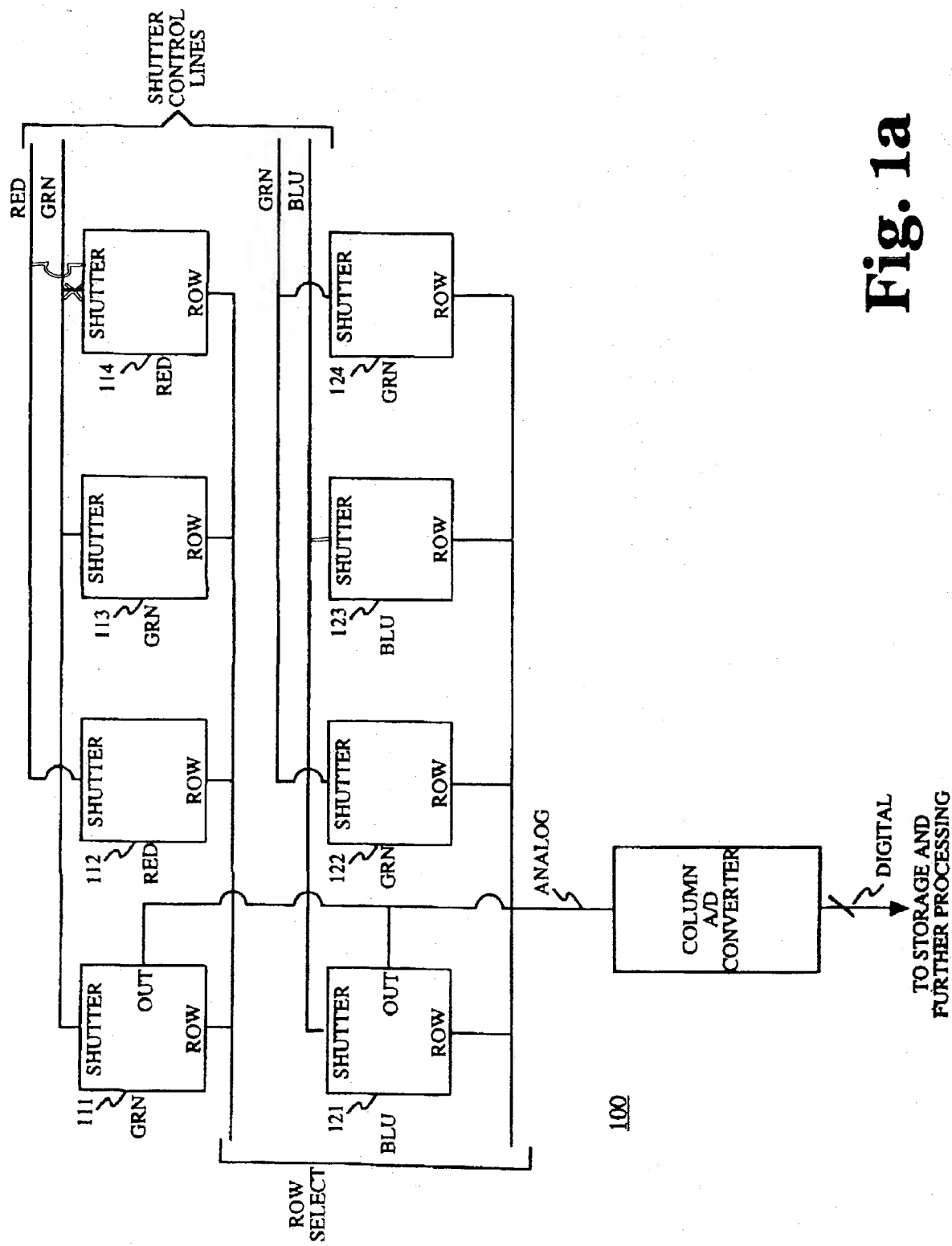
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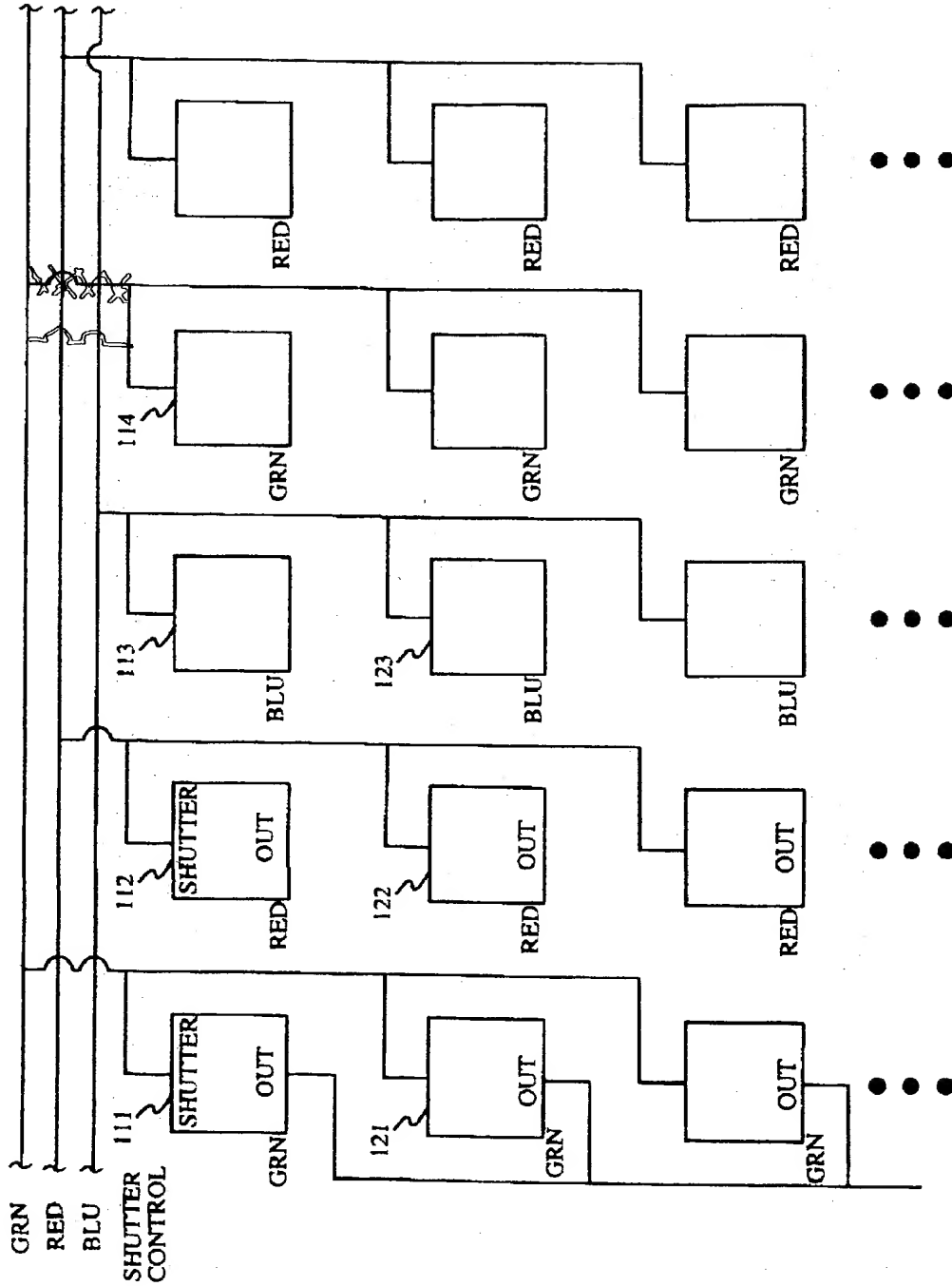
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on October 11, 2004.


Margaux Rodriguez October 12, 2004

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Fig. 2